

B-3202 - B-3213
938-900 S. Charles St. (West side)
Baltimore, Md.
Private access

1840-1850/1870's

With the exception of the large, early twentieth century department store occupying the north-west corner of Charles and Hamburg Streets (930-938 S. Charles St.), the houses located along this side of the 900 block of S. Charles St. are all three stories in height with shed roofs and bracketed cornices, except for 900 S. Charles St., which has a gable roof, and 902 S. Charles St. which is three stories plus an attic story in height, with a gable roof. All of the houses are two bays wide, except for 912 and 900 S. Charles St., which are three bays wide. The houses were originally built in the 1840's with gable roofs but were remodeled after the Civil War in the currently fashionable Italianate style with shed roof and bracketed cornices. Most of the houses have always served a mixed commercial/residential function, with the first floor area serving as a storefront and the upper floors serving as a residence. The group of houses extending from 914 to 922 S. Charles St. are currently in a state of some deterioration.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3202
MAGI 0432022711

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Shofer's Furniture

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

930-938 S. Charles St.

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Baltimore

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

B-3202

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This four story, ten bay wide brick building has always served as a local department/furniture store. The original, slightly Moorish-flavor facade has been altered by changes in the fenestration pattern and the conversion of the first floor area into a modern, plate glass store-front.

The building is four stories in height, about 76' wide, and runs back on its lot about 74'. The building is constructed in running bond. The facade is articulated into five bays by the use of a series of round arches springing from rusticated capitals with carved stone medallions. One such arch extends back along the Hamburg St. side of the facade. These arches define the second floor level (and probably defined the first as well). The cornice line of the building carries out the same arch motif, except that there are two small arches per bay instead of one large arch in the outside and central bays, and three small arches per bay in the two middle bays. These two middle bays project slightly from the surface of the facade and extend above the flat roofline in a false parapet of several feet in height, thus giving the building a somewhat castle-like effect. The cornice line is marked by two simple stone moldings below which there is a design of stepped brickwork, giving the effect of a crenellated roofline. The stepped brick cornice design on the outer and central bays is squared; that of the middle two bays with the parapets above, is arched and echoes the design of the arches below.

The fenestration pattern of the building has been sadly altered and the original strong effect of the arched designs has been mostly lost as a result. The wide round-arched bays of the second floor area originally had round-arched windows filling the space directly under the arch. Later rectangular windows replaced these arched windows but even these are now boarded over. On the fourth floor level, the original windows had round-arched lintels set just below the projecting hood articulating the arch design. The round-arched panes extended down to a rustic stone sill which continued across the entire facade, marking that level of the design. The third floor level had windows placed directly below the round-arched windows on the fourth floor, but these windows had segmentally arched lintels. Like the windows above, they extended down to stone sills which ran across the entire width of the facade. Today, the window areas of the third and fourth floors have been bricked in entirely on the outer and central bays, and have been much reduced in size on the middle two bays. In the latter case, modern jalousie-type windows have been fitted into the spaces with the extra areas above and below bricked in. This is also true of the windows on the Hamburg St. bay of the facade. Thus, these modern windows have considerably lessened the romantic, original Moorish effect of the arched facade design.

The first floor area has been converted into a modern store-front, with centrally located glass and aluminum doors and full-height plate glass store windows set on low aluminum bases. A deep aluminum sign area, with an awning cover, extends across the entire width of the facade, both on the Charles and Hamburg St. sides of the building.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD****AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES**BUILDER/ARCHITECT****STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This building is important as representing one of the early department stores built in the area to serve the needs of the rapidly growing community of South Baltimore in the first decades of the twentieth century. The building is of particular note because of its interesting slightly Moorish design (although the original effect has been much altered by later remodelings) and the fact that it serves as the business location for a prominent local Jewish family, the Shofer's, who settled in South Baltimore in the late nineteenth century.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

5/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Ruxton

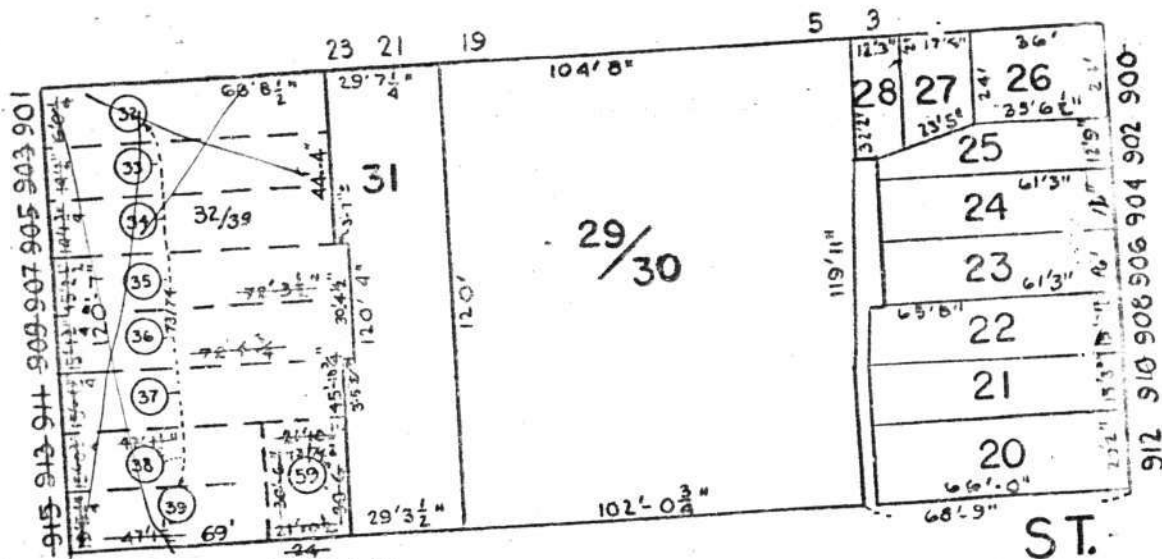
Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

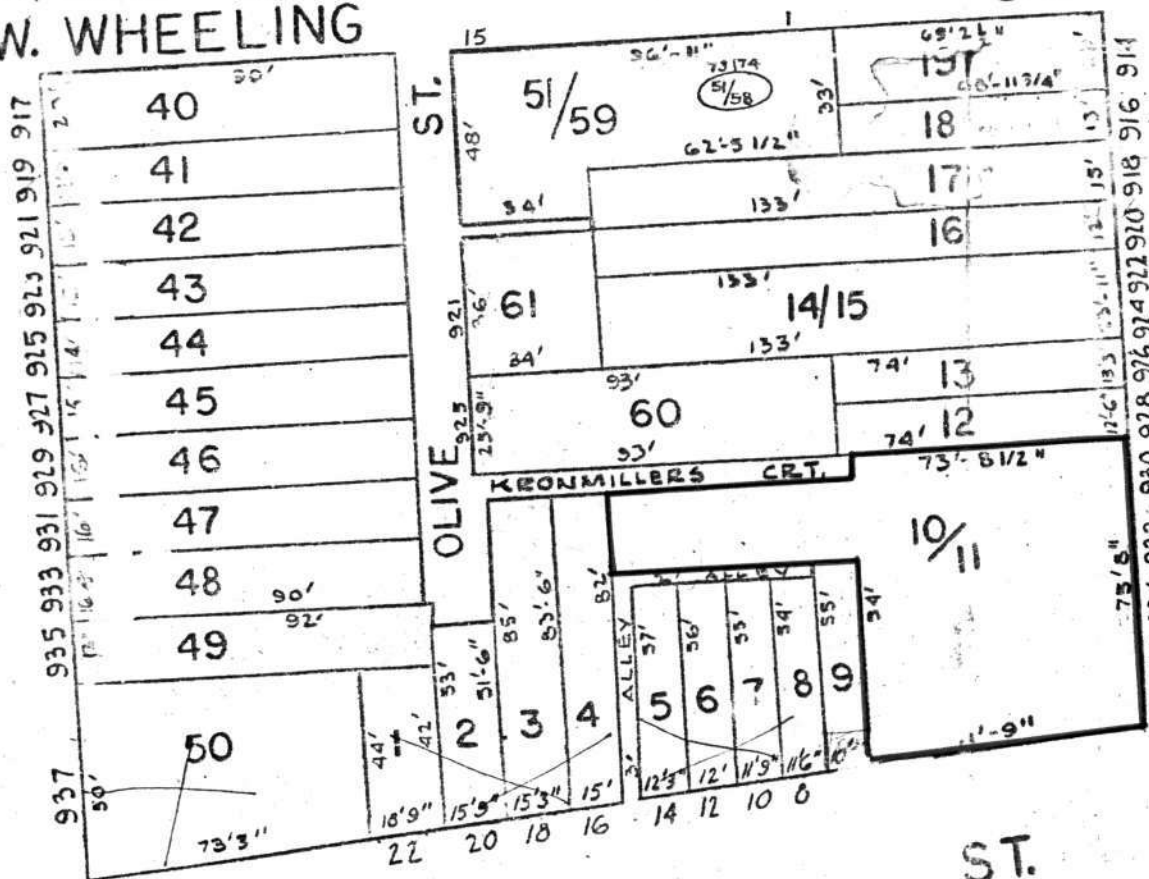
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

S.T.



57

W. WHEELING



S. CHARLES

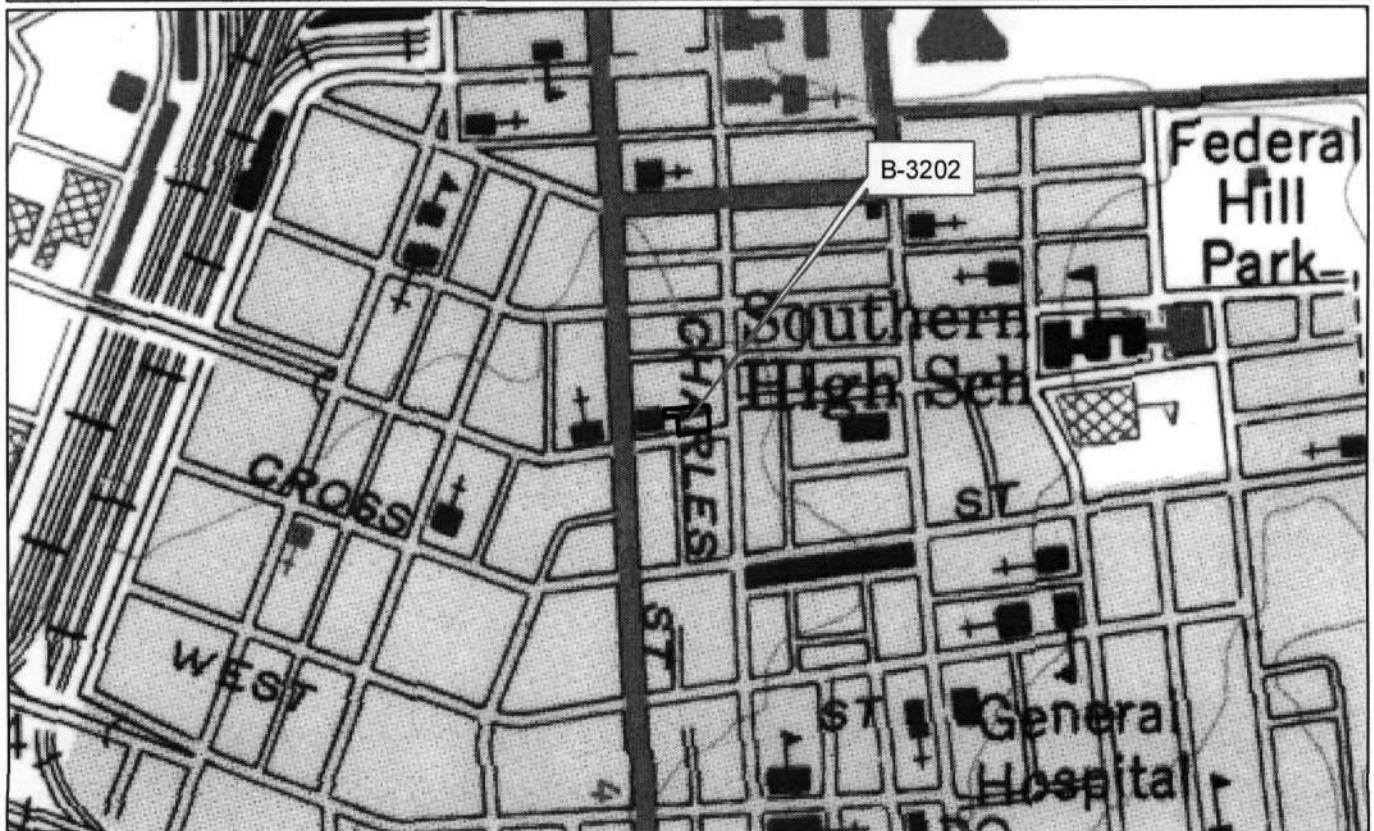
B-3202

ST.

W. HAMBURG

933

B-3202
Shofer's Furniture
930-938 S. Charles Street
Block 0917 Lots 011-010
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3202

930-938 S. Charles St.

M.E.H.

6/79

South and east elevations

RECEIVED
JUN 11 1979

THIS PAI
SANDFAC
BY AGO